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### Pantzer cites need for racial justice, peace in final 'Charge to Class' as UM President

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PANTZER CITES NEED FOR RACIAL JUSTICE, PEACE  
IN FINAL 'CHARGE TO CLASS' AS UM PRESIDENT

MISSOULA--

In his final "Charge to the Graduating Class" as University of Montana president Sunday (June 9), Robert T. Pantzer cited the necessity of achieving such objectives as racial justice, keeping the peace and conquering poverty.

Addressing his remarks in the Harry Adams Field House to about 1,800 doctoral, master's and bachelor's degree recipients, Pantzer--whose resignation as UM president is effective June 30--said that besides a disciplinary or professional education, "a determined function of this University has been to aid in preparing you to be discerning, inquiring and flexible individuals."

"The freedom of this campus, directed toward independent thought, should have enhanced your quality of tolerance--tolerance of the ways and views of others," Pantzer said. "Also, your study and activities here should have directed you towards independent thinking and recognition of a challenge to a life of continued learning."

Emphasizing the necessity of "satisfying a host of crucial needs" which exist in the world today, Pantzer said: "We still need to achieve racial justice, keep the peace, conquer poverty, renew the environment, improve health and education, aid developing nations, and pay serious, dedicated attention to improvement of the welfare of people everywhere.

"To attack such problems and numerous others will require great cadres of dedicated and professionally competent persons," Pantzer said. "I presume that we can agree that education is our prime hope for accomplishment of these many missions."

Pantzer said the University "has been and shall be a place of controversial thought, not fearful of any startling thought or stark concept."

"While some have not been advantaged to attend such an institution, each of you should be understanding and sympathetic toward the meaning of a true University," he said.

Pantzer said he hopes the UM graduates "have learned that the quest for truth, of unquestionable fact, is a continual frustration, a never-ending mission," and that much of the information they may need later in life is available in libraries.

"If you leave here realizing that knowledge gained in the classroom, and possibly now considered to be untarnished as fact, may hereafter prove to be blemished or even false at a time in the future, then, I believe, this University has served you well," Pantzer said. "If you have learned that you don't know or that there is a great deal more to know, then you have learned a great deal."

Pantzer presented honorary doctoral degrees to three persons at Sunday's commencement--Edna Rankin McKinnon, a Missoula native and first Montana-born woman to receive a law degree, who now lives in Carmel, Calif.; Lowndes Maury, a Butte native and musical composer who lives in North Hollywood, Calif., and William R. "Bud" Moore, chief of fire management for the Northern Region of the U.S. Forest Service, who was raised in Florence and now lives in Missoula.

Dr. Richard C. Bowers, who is provost, vice president and professor of chemistry at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Ill., will succeed Pantzer as UM president July 15. Bowers will be UM's 13th president. Pantzer served in the administrative post nearly eight years.